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Approved For Release 2003/08/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001600790010-1

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR 19 July 1948

SUBJECT New Technical Bureau to Be Established at Knorr-Bremse Plant, Berlin

NO. OF PAGES

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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1. All machines and equipment of the Technical Bureau of the Soviet Ministry of the Chemical Industry have been shipped to Russia, where the reconstituted bureau will work on the development of measuring devices for the chemical industry. Lt. Colonel Vesta, Chief of the Berlin Office at Goethestrasse 6-9, has returned to the USSR. No German employees were deported or recruited for work in Russia.
2. Instead of a transfer of the former bureau's personnel to the Askania plant in Berlin-Weissensee, as previously scheduled, the German employees will form the nucleus of a new group to be known as the Ingenieur Büro der Sowjet AG Pribror, Berlin-O.
3. The Pribror group, now numbering sixty-five persons (few of them well known or much experienced), will occupy 6,000 square meters of space set aside in the former Knorr-Bremse plant. The office will advise all Soviet AGs producing heat-technical, electrical and precision measuring instruments, and regulators. The agency will receive 200 machine tools from Russia. It is capitalized at RM 1,500,000, contributed by several Soviet ministries.

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Comment: [redacted] indicated financial backing as follows: Pribror, 500,000 rubles; Ministry of the Chemical Industry, 150,000 rubles; Ministry of the Mining Industry, 70,000 rubles.

4. Ober Ing. Karl Schröder is currently in charge of the bureau's technical department. No Soviet technical manager has been appointed yet. Schröder was chief of the assembly group in Askania's regulator department for 20 years, later worked in the Mariendorf Askania plant, and was technical assistant in the Weissensee bureau until its dissolution.

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